

Highlights

After averaging 14.8 million barrels per day over the period of December through the first half of January, U.S. crude oil refinery inputs have fallen the last 2 weeks to average just 14.1 million barrels per day last week. With relatively high product inventories and low refinery margins, crude oil inputs could stay at or near this level in upcoming weeks. Jet fuel refinery production last week fell to the lowest level seen since the week ending November 23, bucking an increasing trend in recent weeks, such that the most recent 4-week average was just over 94 percent of the 4-week average ending September 7. Both distillate fuel and motor gasoline refinery production declined last week.

Crude oil imports (excluding imports into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve) averaged 8.5 million barrels per day last week, down 600,000 barrels per day from the level seen in the previous week. Total product imports averaged 2.2 million barrels per day last week, an increase of 400,000 barrels per day from the low level seen in the previous week. Distillate fuel imports have averaged 262,000 barrels per day over the last 4 weeks, much less than the 778,000 barrels per day averaged in January 2001. Motor gasoline imports have remained relatively high, averaging 712,000 barrels per day over the last 4 weeks.

While crude oil imports declined last week, refinery inputs also fell substantially, resulting in crude oil inventories rising by 2.1 million barrels to reach 316.9 million barrels. Motor gasoline inventories rose by 2.6 million barrels to reach 216.7 million barrels last week, an increase of 9 million barrels over the last 3 weeks. Overall, distillate fuel inventories declined slightly, with a 1.5 million barrel build in

high-sulfur distillate fuel (often referred to as heating oil) not quite counteracting a 1.7 million barrel decrease in low-sulfur distillate fuel (often referred to as diesel fuel).

With the onset of warmer-than-normal weather in parts of the United States recently, distillate fuel demand (defined as the amount supplied into the distillate fuel market) has averaged just 3.6 million barrels per day over the last 4 weeks. Motor gasoline demand, averaging 8.2 million barrels per day over the last 4 weeks, is now just 0.8 percent above the amount during the same period a year ago.

The average world crude oil price on January 25, 2002 was \$17.52 per barrel, down \$0.17 from the previous week and \$7.68 less than last year. WTI was \$19.80 per barrel, up \$1.78 from last week but \$9.99 less than last year. The spot price for conventional gasoline in the New York Harbor was 54.95 cents per gallon, up 4.05 cents from last week but 29.48 cents lower than last year. The spot price for heating oil in the New York Harbor on January 25, 2002 was 53.83 cents per gallon, 2.48 cents higher than last week but 30.20 cents less than a year ago.

The national average retail regular gasoline price dropped to 110.1 cents per gallon on January 28, 2002, down 0.4 cent per gallon from last week and 35.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. Following 3 weeks of declines, the national average retail diesel fuel price rose last week by 0.4 cent per gallon, reaching 114.4 cents per gallon on January 28, 2002, which is 39.5 cents per gallon less than a year ago.

Refinery Activity (Million Barrels per Day)

	Four Weeks Ending		
	01/25/02	01/18/02	01/25/01
Crude Oil Input to Refineries.....	14.6	14.8	14.9
Refinery Capacity Utilization (Percent) .	88.0	89.4	90.6
Motor Gasoline Production.....	8.2	8.2	8.0
Distillate Fuel Oil Production	3.6	3.7	3.6

See Table 2.

Stocks (Million Barrels)

	Week Ending		
	01/25/02	01/18/02	01/25/01
Crude Oil (Excluding SPR).....	316.9	314.8	292.2
Motor Gasoline.....	216.7	214.1	203.4
Distillate Fuel Oil ¹	138.8	139.0	118.2
All Other Oils.....	346.1	349.3	319.9
Crude Oil in SPR ²	553.5	552.5	541.5
Total	1,572.0	1,569.7	1,475.2

See Table 3.

Net Imports (Million Barrels per Day)

	Four Weeks Ending		
	01/25/02	01/18/02	01/25/01
Crude Oil.....	8.7	8.6	8.8
Petroleum Products	1.3	1.2	2.3
Total	10.0	9.8	11.1

See Table 1.

Products Supplied (Million Barrels per Day)

	Four Weeks Ending		
	01/25/02	01/18/02	01/25/01
Motor Gasoline.....	8.2	8.4	8.2
Distillate Fuel Oil	3.6	3.7	4.3
All Other Products	7.3	7.2	7.6
Total	19.1	19.3	20.0

See Table 9.

Prices (Cents per Gallon except as noted)

	Week Ending		
	01/25/02	01/18/02	01/26/01
World Crude Oil (Dollars per Barrel)	17.52	17.69	25.20
Spot Prices			
WTI Crude Oil - Cushing			
(Dollars per Barrel).....	19.80	18.02	29.79
Conv. Regular Gasoline - NYH	54.95	50.90	84.43
RFG Regular - NYH	57.00	52.93	88.68
No. 2 Heating Oil - NYH.....	53.83	51.35	84.03
No. 2 Low-sulfur Diesel Fuel - NYH	54.10	51.60	85.28
Kerosene-Type Jet - NYH.....	57.00	54.25	86.03
Residual Fuel - NYH	36.74	37.21	58.93
Propane - Mont Belvieu	28.94	28.63	68.00

	01/28/02	01/21/02	01/29/01
Retail Prices			
Motor Gasoline - Regular	110.1	110.5	146.0
Conventional Areas	108.1	108.7	144.6
RFG Areas.....	114.2	114.1	149.7
On-Highway Diesel Fuel	114.4	114.0	153.9

See Tables 12-14 and 16.

¹ Distillate fuel oil stocks located in the "Northeast Heating Oil Reserve" are not included. For details see Appendix D.

² Crude oil stocks in the SPR include non-U.S. stocks held under foreign or commercial storage agreements.

Notes: • NA=Not Available. • Data may not add to total due to independent rounding.